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TRGY, TSPL

SUBJECT: COMMISSION PERSPECTIVES ON UNFCCC, MEF, AND
TROIKA VISIT TO WASHINGTON

11. (SBU) This is a corrected version of BRUSSELS 1165
to correct for formatting.

12. (SBU) SUMMARY. Artur Runge-Metzger, Head of Unit
for International Climate Negotiations in the
European Commission's Directorate General for
Environment, said that emissions targets for
developed and developing countries, including
discussions of comparability, and financing will be
the key topics during the European Union's QTroika
visit to Washington on August 24-25. Separately,
Runge-Metzger feels there is a greater sense of
urgency in the UN climate negotiations, but that
developing countries remain reluctant to engage.
The Major Economies Forum (MEF), he explained, is an
ideal setting to break through some of these
differences. END SUMMARY.

13. (SBU) Swedish Environment Minister Andreas
Carlgren, representing the Presidency of the EU;
Spanish State Secretary for Environment Teresa
Ribera Rodriguez, representing the next Presidency
of the EU; and Jos Delbeke, Deputy Director General
for Environment in the European Commission, will
travel to Washington on August 24-25 to meet with
key U.S. policy-makers on climate change, including
SECC Todd Stern and Deputy National Security Advisor
Michael Froman. Runge-Metzger, speaking on behalf
of Delbeke and the Commission, said to USEU EconOff
that there will be five key topics for coverage
during the Troika:

-- What is achievable in Copenhagen, especially
noting the late date?
-- How can success be orchestrated in

Copenhagen, taking into account the various forums, such as the MEF, G-20, and the Greenland Dialogue?

-- How can the 2 degree C limit in temperature rise be addressed, focusing on various pathways to get there, particularly among developed countries? This includes discussions of comparability of emissions targets among developed countries.

-- What should contributions be from developing countries, noting the backlash on the 2 degree commitment in the July MEF from several countries, notably India?

-- Financing. This remains a fairly fluid topic in the EU, and there remain divisions among Member States. Runge-Metzger also mentioned that he views differences between the U.S. and EU positions on the scale of contributions. For timing in the EU, the Commission will release a financing proposal in early to mid-September, in advance of the G-20. The European Council plans to have conclusions regarding the proposal agreed by mid-October.

14. (SBU) The dynamics of the Troika will be fairly relaxed, according to Runge-Metzger. Carlgren will likely start the conversation, but in small settings, both Ribera Rodriguez and Delbeke will be very engaged in the conversation, particularly in

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situations where the Commission has the competence (such as on carbon markets). (Note. This supports the notion of collaboration and teamwork between Sweden, Spain, and the Commission as demonstrated during the Energy and Environment Ministers meeting in Are, Sweden at the end of July. End note.)

15. (SBU) Turning to the UN negotiating session that took place in Bonn from August 10-14, Runge-Metzger said he feels that the sense of urgency is, Seper pathways (such as in the United States) as too difficult to achieve. It will, be looking for evidence that various pathways are achievable. On Waxman-Markey, Runge-Metzger said that the targets after 2020 will only be, with the exception of Mexico, and to a certain extent, South Africa, but no noises at all from China, India, or Brazil. This needs to be pushed in the MEF. Their positions need to become clearer and more transparent, and this issue should be addressed in the Troika.

18. (SBU) Accounting will also remain a contentious issue, Runge-Metzger added, and the EU is looking for more insight into U.S. thinking on how to handle Land Use, Land Use Change, and Forestry (LULUCF), both for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation in

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Developing Countries (REDD) and for domestic land use change accounting. Kyoto provided a temporary solution, but a permanent framework needs to be addressed.

19. (SBU) Finally, the Commission is looking forward to the September MEF to be held in Washington, Runge-Metzger said. The Commission is also supportive of the concept of a MEF Leaders meeting in November, as the timing after all of the negotiating sessions and directly ahead of Copenhagen could be ideal for a last push to move things forward.

MURRAY